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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/973,616	10/09/2001	David Frederick Martinez	6260	
7590 07/09/2004			EXAMINER	
David F. Martinez			HANNETT, JAMES M	
ATSER 1150 Richcrest Drive			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
Houston, TX 77060			2612	6
			DATE MAILED: 07/09/2004	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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7.		Application No.	Applicant(s)		
Office Action Summary		09/973,616	MARTINEZ, DAVID FREDERICK		
		Examiner	Art Unit		
		James M Hannett	2612		
The MAILING L Period for Reply	DATE of this communication ap	opears on the cover sheet with t	he correspondence address		
THE MAILING DATE - Extensions of time may be a after SIX (6) MONTHS from - If the period for reply specification of the period for reply is specification. - Failure to reply within the second	OF THIS COMMUNICATION available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1 the mailing date of this communication. ed above is less than thirty (30) days, a recified above, the maximum statutory period to rextended period for reply will, by statustice later than three months after the mailing.	.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply ply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30	be timely filed) days will be considered timely. from the mailing date of this communication. ONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).		
Status					
1) Responsive to	communication(s) filed on 22	March 2004.			
2a) ☐ This action is F		is action is non-final.			
•	Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.				
Disposition of Claims	sance min the practice ander	Expante Quayro, 1000 C.E. T.	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
4)	s/are rejected. is/are objected to. are subject to restriction and/	awn from consideration. for election requirement.	cted to by the Examiner		
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on <u>09 October 2001</u> is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.					
Priority under 35 U.S.C.	§ 119				
a) All b) Sor 1. Certified 2. Certified 3. Copies of application	me * c) None of: copies of the priority documer copies of the priority documer f the certified copies of the pri on from the International Bure	nts have been received in Appli ority documents have been rec	ication No reived in this National Stage		
	Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) atement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08		mary (PTO-413) ail Date nal Patent Application (PTO-152)		

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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

New corrected drawings are required in this application because the drawings are hand drawn. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsperson outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-13 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's arguments, see Amendment B, filed 3/22/2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 14-20 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Ditzik in view of Flanagan in view of Duenke.

The Applicant should note that Examiner Myers is no longer assigned to this case. All future office actions will be handled by Examiner James M. Hannett.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

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1: Claims 1-3 and 6-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,983,073 Ditzik in view of US 2003/0018507 A1 Flanagan.

As for Claim 1, Ditzik teaches on Column 3, Lines 50-58 a handheld computer to collect data; a camera (CCD) coupled to the computer to capture an image or video; Column 8, Lines 4-6. Ditzik teaches on Column 5, Lines 18-22 a sketch pad (pen input means) coupled to the handheld computer to capture a sketch; Ditzik teaches on Column 9, Lines 55-67 code to annotate the image and communicate the image and data to a remote computer. Ditzik teaches that the hand held computer or PDA can contain a wide range of software and allow a user to perform data collaboration applications, and can be used as a personal organizer or personal information manager. Furthermore, Ditzik teaches on Column 10, Lines 1-10 that a multiplicity of personal computing applications may be embodied on the computer. However, Ditzik does not specifically state that the personal handheld computer can be used to collect data related to a construction project.

Flanagan teaches on Paragraphs [0005-0006] a software system used for scheduling a plurality of simultaneous construction projects. Flanagan teaches the use of a system that includes several field communication devices (PDA's) that transmit construction project data to a server over a computer network. Flanagan teaches that this system is advantageous because it allows contractors to work more efficiently.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to install the construction management software of Flanagan in the PDA of Ditzik to enable the PDA to be use in a construction project management system so that contractors can better manage construction projects.

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3: As for Claim 2, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports.

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4: In regards to Claim 3, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. However, Ditzik in view of Flanagan does not teach that the handheld computer can collect project and contract identification, inspector identification, item number, location, and one or more description of activities.

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Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made that when managing a construction project a multitude of different data is needed in order to manage a construction project. Official notice is taken that it was well know in the art at the time the invention was made to collect data for a construction project relating to project and contract identification data, inspector identification data, item number data, location data,

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to capture construction project data related to any pertinent data that is needed in the management of a construction project in order to allow a general contractor to better manage a construction project.

5: As for Claim 6, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries (equipment information), payment status reports. However, Ditzik in view of Flanagan does not teach that the handheld computer can collect project and contract identification, inspector identification, item number, location, and one or more description of activities.

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6: In regards to Claim 7, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. However, Ditzik in view of Flanagan does not teach that the hand held computer collects equipment type, quantity, hours in use and stand-by-hours.

Official Notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made that when managing a construction project a multitude of different data is needed in order to manage a construction project. Official notice is taken that it was well know in the art at the time the invention was made to collect data for a construction project relating to equipment type, quantity, hours in use and stand-by hours.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to capture construction project data related to any pertinent data that is needed in the management of a construction project in order to allow a general contractor to better manage a construction project.

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7: As for Claim 8, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. However, Ditzik in view of Flanagan does not teach that the hand held computer collects submittal information.

Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made that when managing a construction project a multitude of different data is needed in order to manage a construction project. Official notice is taken that it was well know in the art at the time the invention was made to collect data for a construction project relating to submittal information.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to capture construction project data related to any pertinent data that is needed in the management of a construction project in order to allow a general contractor to better manage a construction project.

8: In regards to Claim 9, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can

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enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. However, Ditzik in view of Flanagan does not teach that the hand held computer collects data pertaining to weather conditions, comments and inspector name.

Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made that when managing a construction project a multitude of different data is needed in order to manage a construction project. Official notice is taken that it was well know in the art at the time the invention was made to collect data for a construction project relating to weather condition, comments, and an inspector name.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to capture construction project data related to any pertinent data that is needed in the management of a construction project in order to allow a general contractor to better manage a construction project.

9: In regards to Claim 10, Flanagan further teaches on Paragraph [0006] the handheld computers sends collected information to a server.

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10: As for Claim 11, Ditzik further teaches on Column 4, Lines 55-59 transmitting the collected information wirelessly using a wireless handheld unit.

- 11: In regards to Claim 12, Ditzik further teaches on Column 4, Lines 50-53 the use of a modern coupled to the handheld computer, wherein the information can be transmitted using a modern.
- 12: As for Claim 13, Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made to enable PDA devices to dock to a hot-sync cradle to enable the PDA to easily communicate with a remote computer via a server.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to enable the PDA of Ditzik to dock using a hot-sync cradle to enable the PDA to easily communicate with a remote computer via a server.

- 13: Claims 4, 5, 14-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 5,983,073 Ditzik in view of US 2003/0018507 A1 Flanagan in further view of US 2002/0026343 A1 Duenke.
- 14: As for Claim 4, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of

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completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. Flanagan does not teach that the construction management system can collect data related to material and labor costs and perform project estimation.

Duenke teaches on Paragraphs [0010-0015, 0042 and 0046-0047] that is it advantageous when managing a construction project to use software that enables a contractor to track material costs, labor costs, perform project estimation, and access vendor pricing data among other things. This is advantageous because it allows a contractor to minimize construction project costs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to a allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to include the project management features as taught in Duenke to better manage a construction project.

15: In regards to Claim 5, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. Flanagan does not teach that the construction management system can collect data related to material and labor costs and perform project estimation.

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Duenke teaches on Paragraphs [0010-0015, 0042 and 0046-0047] that is it advantageous when managing a construction project to use software that enables a contractor to track material costs, labor costs, perform project estimation, and access vendor pricing data among other things. This is advantageous because it allows a contractor to minimize construction project costs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to a allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to include the project management features as taught in Duenke to better manage a construction project.

16: As for Claim 14, Ditzik teaches on Column 3, Lines 50-58 a handheld computer to collect data; a camera (CCD) coupled to the computer to capture an image or video; Column 8, Lines 4-6. Ditzik teaches on Column 5, Lines 18-22 a sketch pad (pen input means) coupled to the handheld computer to capture a sketch; Ditzik teaches on Column 9, Lines 55-67 code to annotate the image and communicate the image and data to a remote computer. Ditzik teaches that the hand held computer or PDA can contain a wide range of software and allow a user to perform data collaboration applications, and can be used as a personal organizer or personal information manager. Furthermore, Ditzik teaches on Column 10, Lines 1-10 that a multiplicity of personal computing applications may be embodied on the computer. However, Ditzik does not specifically state that the personal handheld computer can be used to collect data related to a construction project.

Flanagan teaches on Paragraphs [0005-0006] a software system used for scheduling a plurality of simultaneous construction projects. Flanagan teaches the use of a system that includes several field communication devices (PDA's) that transmit construction project data to a

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server over a computer network. Flanagan teaches that this system is advantageous because it allows contractors to work more efficiently.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to install the construction management software of Flanagan in the PDA of Ditzik to enable the PDA to be use in a construction project management system so that contractors can better manage construction projects.

Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project.

Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. Flanagan does not teach that the construction management system can collect data related to material and labor costs and perform project estimation.

Duenke teaches on Paragraphs [0010-0015, 0042 and 0046-0047] that is it advantageous when managing a construction project to use software that enables a contractor to track material costs, labor costs, perform project estimation, and access vendor pricing data among other things. This is advantageous because it allows a contractor to minimize construction project costs.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to a allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to include the project management features as taught in Duenke to better manage a construction project.

Furthermore, Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made that when managing a construction project a multitude of different data is needed in order to manage a construction project. Official notice is taken that it was well know in the art at the time the invention was made to collect data for a construction project relating to work in progress data, project and contract identification data, inspector identification data, item number data, location data, labor related information, labor type, quality and hours, equipment information, equipment type, quantity, hours in use and stand-by hours, submittal information, weather condition, comments, and an inspector name.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to capture construction project data related to any pertinent data that is needed in the management of a construction project in order to allow a general contractor to better manage a construction project.

17: In regards to Claim 15, Ditzik in view of Flanagan in view of Duenke teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the

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data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. The data pertaining to completion of scheduled tasks is viewed as work in progress data.

18: As for Claim 16, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. Flanagan does not teach that the construction management system can collect data related to material and labor costs and perform project estimation.

Duenke teaches on Paragraphs [0010-0015, 0042 and 0046-0047] that is it advantageous when managing a construction project to use software that enables a contractor to track material costs (material information), labor costs, perform project estimation, and access vendor pricing data among other things. This is advantageous because it allows a contractor to minimize construction project costs.

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Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to a allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to include the project management features as taught in Duenke to better manage a construction project.

19: In regards to Claim 17, Ditzik in view of Flanagan teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. Flanagan does not teach that the construction management system can collect data related to material and labor costs and perform project estimation.

Duenke teaches on Paragraphs [0010-0015, 0042 and 0046-0047] that is it advantageous when managing a construction project to use software that enables a contractor to track material costs (material information), labor costs, perform project estimation, and access vendor pricing data among other things. This is advantageous because it allows a contractor to minimize construction project costs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to a allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in

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view of Flanagan to include the project management features as taught in Duenke to better manage a construction project.

20: In regards to Claim 18, Ditzik in view of Flanagan in view of Duenke teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. However, Ditzik in view of Flanagan does not teach that the hand held computer collects submittal information.

Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made that when managing a construction project a multitude of different data is needed in order to manage a construction project. Official notice is taken that it was well know in the art at the time the invention was made to collect data for a construction project relating to submittal information.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to capture construction project data related to any pertinent data that is needed in the management of a construction project in order to allow a general contractor to better manage a construction project.

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21: In regards to Claim 19, Ditzik in view of Flanagan in view of Duenke teaches a field construction project management system in which a general contractor can issue PDA devices to employees that can enter construction project data while on site and have the construction project data sent via a communications link to a server that can manage all data related to a construction project. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraphs [0004-0006, 0008, 0016-0018, 0020] that the data collected related the to construction project can include among other things management reports, supplying data, completion of scheduled tasks data, performance variance data, scheduling information, geographical positioning data, in progress lot status reports, variance reports, lists of completed tasks, materials deliveries, payment status reports. Flanagan does not teach that the construction management system can collect data related to material and labor costs and perform project estimation.

Duenke teaches on Paragraphs [0010-0015, 0042 and 0046-0047] that is it advantageous when managing a construction project to use software that enables a contractor to track material costs, labor costs, perform project estimation, and access vendor pricing data among other things. This is advantageous because it allows a contractor to minimize construction project costs.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to a allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to include the project management features as taught in Duenke to better manage a construction project.

Furthermore, Official notice is taken that it was well known in the art at the time the invention was made that when managing a construction project a multitude of different data is needed in order to manage a construction project. Official notice is taken that it was well know in

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the art at the time the invention was made to collect data for a construction project relating to work in progress data, project and contract identification data, inspector identification data, item number data, location data, labor related information, labor type, quality and hours, equipment information, equipment type, quantity, hours in use and stand-by hours, submittal information, weather condition, comments, and an inspector name.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to allow the PDA's in the construction management system of Ditzik in view of Flanagan to capture construction project data related to any pertinent data that is needed in the management of a construction project in order to allow a general contractor to better manage a construction project.

As for Claim 20, Ditzik further teaches on Column 4, Lines 55-59 and Column 9, Lines 60-65 transmitting the collected information wirelessly using a wireless handheld unit or wired over a land-line. Flanagan further teaches on Paragraph [0006] the handheld computers sends collected information to a server.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James M. Hannett whose telephone number is 703-305-7880. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am to 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy Garber can be reached on 703-305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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James M. Hannett Examiner Art Unit 2612

JMH June 21, 2004

WENDY R. GARBER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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